

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
28 October 2004 (28.10.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/091580 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61K 9/16, 9/50**

Opp. Naval depot, Ghatkopar (West), Bombay 400 986,
Maharashtra State (IN).

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2004/003255

(74) Agent: **GRUBB, Phillip**; Novartis AG, Corporate Intellectual Property, CH-4002 Basel (CH).

(22) International Filing Date: 26 March 2004 (26.03.2004)

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

0307277.4 28 March 2003 (28.03.2003) GB
0316087.6 9 July 2003 (09.07.2003) GB

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **SANDOZ AG** [CH/CH]; Lichtstrasse 35, CH-4056 Basel (CH).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **DOSHI, Chetan** [IN/IN]; C-3, 403, Veenasagar, Co-Operative Housing Society, Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg, Mulund (West) 400 080, Mumbai (IN). **GOPINATHAN, Dinesh** [IN/IN]; A-9/301, Rutu Enclave, Ghodbunder Road, Kavesar, Thane (West) 400 601, Maharashtra (IN). **KULKARNI, Sushrut** [IN/IN]; C002 Ganga Yamuna Apartments, Near Mohinder Singh School, Behind Ganesh Tower, Agra Road, Kalyan (W) 421 301 (IN). **SUKTHANKAR, Mangesh** [IN/IN]; Madgaonkar Building, Above Post Office, Court Lane Borivali (west), Mumbai-400 092, Maharashtra (IN). **THAKKER, Prashant** [IN/IN]; CTS 175, J-45 Mahandra Park, Narayan Nagar, L.B.S. marg,

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: **VENLAFAXINE COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING PELLETS WITH DOUBLE LAYER COATING**

(57) Abstract: This invention provides coated pellets comprising a) a pellet core which comprises venlafaxine hydrochloride; b) a first coating which comprises a lipophilic layer or a sparingly water-soluble layer, and c) a second coating which comprises a water-insoluble polymer or polymer mixture. In another aspect this invention provides compositions which comprises the coated pellets. In a further aspect, the invention provides a process for preparing the coated pellets which process avoids use of organic solvents at least for the second coating.